

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL GOODPASTER

SUBJECT: Military Department Contracts for Space Activities

This will reply to your note of July 9, 1959, in which you indicated the President's interest in current Department of Defense policy regarding the desirability of permitting the Military Departments to engage in certain activities related to space.

The July 2, 1959, memorandum transmitting the list of Military Department contracts for space activities to members of the National Aeronautics and Space Council should have specified, for clarity, that these activities are, in fact, limited to "paper" studies and are not hardware research projects. The purpose of these background studies, which are preliminary to any actual research effort, is to determine the feasibility and extent of the particular Military Department's needs in conjunction with the submission of its requirements for the use of the space environment to the Advanced Research Projects Agency.

In addition to providing guidance and recommendation on requirements for space research, the Military Departments are able through the limited flexibility for studies now permitted, to bring complementary DOD resources to bear in the important area of new ideas and project feasibility. Within the Military Departments, a very high order of technical competence exists in fields which border on, or are applicable to space research, especially in the context of certain state-of-the-art programs which the Services have been investigating for several years. For example, substantial segments of applied research which the Department of the Air Force is conducting for global sensing systems apply equally to satellite or airborne carriers. Thus, the advanced research program of ARPA (and NASA as well) rests, to a very significant degree, on the state-of-the-art resulting from research undertaken by the Military Departments.

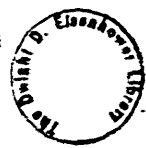
27 July 59

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL GOODPASTER

SUBJECT: Military Department Contracts for Space Activities

This will reply to your note of July 9, 1959, in which you indicated the President's interest in current Department of Defense policy regarding the desirability of permitting the Military Departments to engage in certain activities related to space.

The July 2, 1959, memorandum transmitting the list of Military Department contracts for space activities to members of the National Aeronautics and Space Council should have specified, for clarity, that these activities are, in fact, limited to "paper" studies and are not hardware research projects. The purpose of these background studies, which are preliminary to any actual research effort, is to determine the feasibility and extent of the particular Military Department's needs in conjunction with the submission of its requirements for the use of the space environment to the Advanced Research Projects Agency.



In addition to providing guidance and recommendations on requirements for space research, the Military Departments are able, through the limited flexibility for studies now permitted, to bring complementary DOD resources to bear in the important area of new ideas and project feasibility. Within the Military Departments, a very high order of technical competence exists in fields which border on, or are applicable to space research, especially in the context of certain state-of-the-art programs which the Services have been investigating for several years. For example, substantial segments of applied research which the Department of the Air Force is conducting for global reconnaissance sensing systems apply equally to satellite or airborne carriers. Thus, the advanced research program of ARPA (and NASA as well) rests, to a very significant degree, on the state-of-the-art resulting from research undertaken by the Military Departments.

Electrostatic reproduction made for preservation purposes by the Eisenhower Library for replacement of a deteriorating manuscript item

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

Nevertheless, it has been, and continues to be our policy that military research projects utilizing space shall normally be conducted by ARPA on behalf of the entire Department of Defense, based upon requirements submitted to ARPA by the Services and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Excluded from this general policy are aeromedical research, and studies and feasibility investigations such as those described above.

In implementation of this policy, the Military Departments have been directed not to undertake space R&D projects except upon the express approval of the Director, ARPA, for those project areas for which he has been assigned responsibility. The dollar ceiling imposed by the Director, ARPA, for feasibility studies is [illeg]. Further, the Secretaries of the three Military Departments and the Director of ARPA recently have been advised of specific revised project assignments to ARPA, including those dealing with military space technology.

ARPA receives copies of the Military Department studies and investigations and is advised on a continuing basis, of their progress, results and conclusions. ARPA monitors these studies in order to incorporate their results into appropriate ARPA programs, and also to determine if research and development under ARPA auspices is warranted in light of these feasibility investigations.

On those project areas not assigned to the Director, ARPA, the express approval, of the Director, Defense Research and Engineering is required. Moreover, any proposal developed by one of the Military Departments for a new space project must be submitted to the Director, Defense Research and Engineering, and must be coordinated with the Director, ARPA, prior to submission.

It is believed that these control measures provide the essential regulatory framework to insure that duplication or overlapping research related to space is being avoided within the Department of Defense. In addition, regular and continuous coordination through the National Aeronautics and Space Council, the Civilian Military Liaison Committee and other channels provided by the Space Act, plus frequent contact by a series of ad hoc NASA-DOD committees meeting on particular technical subjects as well as daily informal liaison at the ARPA-NASA working level, are proving effective in preventing duplication and in furnishing mutual support to the space research efforts being undertaken by NASA and the Department of Defense.

Nevertheless, it has been, and continues to be our policy that military research projects utilizing space shall normally be conducted by ARPA on behalf of the entire Department of Defense, based upon requirements submitted to ARPA by the Services and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Excluded from this general policy are aeronautical research, and studies and feasibility investigations such as those described above.

In implementation of this policy, the Military Departments have been directed not to undertake space R&D projects except upon the express approval of the Director, ARPA, for those project areas for which he has been assigned responsibility. The dollar ceiling imposed by the Director, ARPA, for feasibility studies is \$500,000. Further, the Secretaries of the three Military Departments and the Director of ARPA recently have been advised of specific revised project assignments to ARPA, including those dealing with military space technology.

ARPA receives copies of the Military Department studies and investigations and is advised, on a continuing basis, of their progress, results and conclusions. ARPA monitors these studies in order to incorporate their results into appropriate ARPA programs, and also to determine if research and development under ARPA auspices is warranted in light of these feasibility investigations.

On those project areas not assigned to the Director, ARPA, the express approval of the Director, Defense Research and Engineering is required. Moreover, any proposal developed by one of the Military Departments for a new space project must be submitted to the Director, Defense Research and Engineering, and must be coordinated with the Director, ARPA, prior to submission.

It is believed that these control measures provide the essential regulatory framework to insure that duplication or overlapping research related to space is being avoided within the Department of Defense. In addition, regular and continuous coordination through the National Aeronautics and Space Council, the Civilian Military Liaison Committee and other channels provided by the Space Act, plus frequent contact by a series of ad hoc NASA-DOD committees meeting on particular technical subjects as well as daily informal liaison at the ARPA-NASA working level, are proving effective in preventing duplication and in furnishing mutual support to the space research efforts being undertaken by NASA and the Department of Defense.

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

In view of these considerations, it is believed that the Department of Defense has evolved a sound and workable procedure for engaging in space research, which, at the same time, allows us to take maximum advantage of the research talents and capabilities of the entire Defense establishment on behalf of the high priority military space effort.

In view of these considerations, it is believed that the Department of Defense has evolved a sound and workable procedure for engaging in space research, which, at the same time, allows us to take maximum advantage of the research talents and capabilities of the entire Defense establishment on behalf of the high priority military space effort.



15/ Gates
Deputy

Prep by: JSPatton/rch/17 July 59
ARPA/3K169/x37100

Basic is ARPA 3427 attached to SecDef correspondence. Thermofax copy retained.

Coordinated in mem draft w/ Col Lay and Mr. Hess

Mr. Glase

Adm Clark

DDR&E

OASD(Comp)

Electronically reproduction made for documentation purposes by the Eisenhower Library for replacement of deteriorated manuscript